

# Branch 2184 ... "Speaks"

Official Publication of Branch 2184, NALC, AFL-CIO

March/April 2013

## Branch 2184 Western Wayne County, MI National Association of Letter Carriers AFL - CIO

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#### Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

### Calendar Branch Meetings:

June 5th, 2013 Sept 4th, 2013 (7:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

#### **Retirees Meetings:**

June 12th, 2013 Sept 11th, 2013 (12:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

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## **President's Report**

6 Day Delivery / The Law (For Now)

NEWS FLASH! The United States Postal Service will obey the law. On Wednesday April 10, the Postal Service Board of Governors released a statement to the media saying that the restrictive language in the Continuing Resolution passed by Congress has prohibited implementation of a new national delivery schedule. They went on to say that "Although disappointed with this Congressional action, the Board will follow the law and has directed the Postal Service to delay implementation of its new delivery schedule until legislation is passed that provides the Postal Service with the authority to implement a financially appropriate and responsible delivery schedule."

They just don't get it. It's not the delivery schedule or frequency of delivery that is causing the red ink to flow; it's the mismanagement and incompetence at the top. The "shrink to survive" strategy being pushed by PMG Donahoe is fatally flawed and does nothing to address the real problem, which is the Congressionally-mandated prefunding requirement of future health care benefits. We need to continue to make our case to the public and to the media, and hope that Congress gets the message and chooses a responsible path to postal reform. Otherwise it will be more of the same "shrink to survive."

It is time for Congress to address the issue of pre-funding retiree health benefits that it imposed on the Postal Service back in 2006. In the latest NALC *Bulletin*, President Rolando had this to say about the Board of Governor's decision, "I cannot stress enough that this victory is only the most recent in our ongoing battle. Saturday mail is still far from being permanently protected; the Board of Governors stated that it expects legislation allowing elimination of Saturday mail delivery to be included in legislation later this year. So all of us must remain diligent and continue to fight to retain this competitive advantage of ours that's so critical to the future of the Postal Service." As President Rolando reiterated in his

(Continued on page 3)



#### **Officers**

President	Mark Judd
Executive Vice President	Jim Wolstencroft
Vice President	Walt McGregory
Recording Secretary	Casey Pennington
Financial Secretary Treas	Cathy Tondreau
Sergeant at Arms	Darryl Clay
Health Benefits Rep	Jim Powell
Retirees Officer	Leonard Zawisa
Trustee	Joe Golonka
Trustee	Gloria Warthen
Trustee	Patricia Linna
Editor	Leonard Zawisa
Branch Scribe	
Web Site Design	Jim Hales
Injury Compensation	Joe Golonka



*Branch 2184 Speaks* is published 6 times a year by Branch 2184, National Association of Letter Carriers.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editorial staff or the officers of the branch.

We invite all members to contribute articles for publication. Copy should be typed, double-spaced and signed by the contributor. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit, delete or reject the article for the good of the branch.

In the hope that material contained herein may be of benefit to the goals of the NALC, permission is hereby granted to copy or use material in this publication with our best wishes.

#### **Stewards**

Belleville	
Dearborn (Main)	
Dearborn (Annex)	
	. Jacqueline McGregory
	. Rose Miller (alt)
	. Roderick Lelental (alt)
Dearborn Heights	. Richard Alaniz
	. James Wolstencroft (alt)
	. John Czuchrak (alt)
	. Chris Tostige (alt)
Dundee	. 313-295-1640
Flat Rock	. 313-295-1640
Grosse Ile	. Christopher Biegalski
	. Kim Bumbul (alt)
Inkster	. Bryon Hendricks
Lincoln Park	
	. Dave Reise (alt)
Monroe	. Erik Venzke
	. Chris Carmon (alt)
Northville	
	Jim Holland (alt)
	. Bridgette Sams (alt)
Plymouth	
,	
	Bob Venning (alt)
Rockwood	
Taylor	
Temperance	
Trenton	
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Canton	
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#### **Address Correction Requested**

When you move, change your name, leave the letter carrier craft, retire, or your phone number changes, we need to hear from you. Your member benefits, newsletter and other mailings may be affected if we don't have the new information. It only takes a phone call or drop us a note. We will do the rest.

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(Continued from page 1)

statement, it's up to us to make sure they get the message.

#### **Local Negotiations**

On April 3, we received notification from the Postal Service that in accordance with Article 30 they were intent on opening up local negotiations with Branch 2184. In their letter sent to the Branch they said they were interested in changing or adding language to the local and that they felt some of the current language is inconsistent and or in conflict with new 2011 National Agreement. In addition, they cited some provisions which management believes to be too costly in terms of dollars as to create an unreasonable burden for the Postal Service.

On April 5, I responded to their notification and informed them that the Branch 2184 LMOU (Local Memorandum of Understanding) committee would be prepared to meet with them to set up the ground rules as well as the future dates for the rounds of negotiations. Our Branch 2184 LMOU bargaining committee has met with the USPS on a number of occasions to set forth proposals to address the Postal Service's concerns as well as those changes we think would be beneficial to the membership.

As we prepare to go to print it appears that we will be heading to Impasse/Arbitration over some issues that we were unable to resolve. On April 23, both parties suspended further planned days of negotiations, as it appears we will be unable to resolve the outstanding issues. However, both sides reserved the right to reconvene for further negotiations until the April 30 deadline. I would like to thank the committee for their hard work, long hours and dedication to the Branch. The bargaining committee and alternates are as follows: Mark Judd, Jim Wolstencroft, Walt McGregory, Casey Pennington, Joe Golonka, and Dave Reise. Alternates were Michele Szafran, Jackie McGregory,

Jim Hales, Darryl Clay, Scott Watts, Chris Carmon, Erik Venzke, and Mike Tredway. In the next "Speaks" I will report on the outcome of the local negotiations.

#### Michiganders for 6 Day

On Sunday March 24, thousands of letter carriers along with their families and friends as well as labor coalition partners gathered across the country to spread the message to Save 6-Day Delivery. The Michigan State Association took the lead and organized carriers from around the state to participate in the event. In the Southeast area of Michigan close to 1000 letter carriers, friends and family members as well as assorted labor groups assembled in front of the Southfield Post Office to get our message out to Save 6-Day Mail Delivery. Special thanks to our own Patty Linna who was the Southfield site coordinator. Patty helped coordinate the event in Southfield under the direction of our State President, Dan Florkowski. mately 125 Branch 2184 members and their families took part in the rally. Thanks again to all those who participated in this event. (Please see related article in this edition).

#### Reminders

The Branch Uniform Bank is still looking for donations of new or slightly used uniforms. If you would like to donate any items please bring them to the Union office or have your steward drop them off. Thank you to Jim Wolstencroft, Bob Venning, Dianne Daley and Victor Micunek for their donations.

This year's Branch 2184 picnic is fast approaching. Remember to mark your calendars and circle the date: Sunday, June 23 from 12:00 to 6:00. Be prepared to have some fun and don't forget to invite the city carrier assistants (CCA's) from your office!

-- Mark Judd President

## **EVP's Report**

## Welcome to the United States Postal Service (Bizarro World)

For those of you who know of Superman comics there is a place known as Bizarro World in

which everything is opposite of what it is. Society is ruled by the Bizarro Code which states "Us do opposite of all earthly things! Us hates beauty! Us loves ugliness! Is big crime to



#### make anything perfect on Bizarro World!"

This is where I welcome all new CCA's (City Carrier Assistances) to the USPS World. In this World things are not quite what they seem. First let me introduce the big boss himself, Postmaster General Donahoe. He has a grand idea of cutting service to return the USPS to sound financial footing. This clearly has Bizarro written all over it. To apply this to the Bizarro code this means;

#### "Us take away revenue to spur growth".

Here in the real World this means;

"Let's get rid of the Postal Service"

Now those of us that have been around for a while are quite use to this type of talk which doesn't make sense. We have been battling these forces for some time (since 1889 when the NALC was founded). So the NALC has a little experience in taking on a fight that is right. So your actions to help save the USPS are invaluable. WE NEED YOU!

The Branch office has been receiving other messages in Bizarro Code, such as;

#### "Us give no pay for hard work"

Yes it is true we have come to find out that some of the new CCA's have been hired and are working, yet have no Employee Identification Number (EIN) and are not receiving paychecks. If this is happening to you please call this office or

see your station union steward.

Another message in Bizarro code has been received is;

#### "Us work you more hours receive less pay"

To translate this message to better understand it, let's begin with overtime. Overtime (over 8 hours in a day or 40 hours in a week) is paid at one and one-half time your regular straight rate. Not in Bizarro world. We have also received information that new CCA's are not receiving the appropriate rate for overtime work. If you're not receiving at least \$22.50 for overtime work than you need to call this office or see your steward.

And our most recent Bizarro message was during our local negotiations. One of the provisions in the arbitration award is one that grants Annual Leave to CCA's (13 days max per appointment) for rest, recreation, emergency purposes, and illness or injury. There was also a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that permits the Local Parties to negotiate CCA's into the local leave program. The message that was received in Bizarro code was;

#### "Us give you paid leave you must work"

Translation: Despite many different proposals by the branch, local management refused to allow CCA's into the local leave program. This CCA leave issue has yet to be resolved as of this writing, so stay tuned.

And the last message received in Bizarro code is as follows;

#### "Us show you how to do job by not training you"

This is the most important translation that you should receive. As a new city carrier assistant of the United States Postal Service, do the best you can to educate yourself in what exactly your duties are and perform those duties to the best of your ability. If you rely on the Bizarro code, you just may find yourself out of a job and joining the real world.

-- James Wolstencroft
Executive Vice President

## **VP's Report**

#### **NALC Secretary-Treasurer Training**

I had the opportunity to attend training for Branch 2184, along with other branch officers representing their local branches and State Associations from around the country. The training was conducted at the Cleveland Sheraton Inn from Sunday April 21st, 2013 thru Wednesday April 24th, 2013. NALC National Secretary-Treasurer Jane Broendel, along with many NALC staffers and CPA's taught the classes which focused on Department Of Labor (DOL) reporting, payroll systems and internal controls, taxes, fiduciary duties, Forms LM-2,3,4 & 990, Branch record-keeping, dues and membership, Branch self-audits, as well as planning and budgeting. The training took place from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm each day. I learned so many things in this intense training and have brought back info and materials to share with my fellow Branch 2184 officers to help run our branch suc-Thank you, President Judd and our cessfully. membership for the opportunity to continue to attend the training.

#### **Branch 2184 LMOU Negotiations**

I was chosen by President Mark Judd to sit on the Local Branch Local Memorandum of Understanding (LMOU) committee along with other Branch 2184 officers and stewards that are named in the President's Report. This was my first time sitting on this committee on behalf of the branch and this also has been very informative. Your branch officers and stewards have been negotiating with our management counterparts who included Postmaster Joe Bodary (Lincoln Park), Postmaster Roosevelt Baugh (Dearborn), and Postmaster Tony Hubbard (Monroe), Postmaster Michael Thompson (Trenton) and Officer-in-Charge Travis Alexander (Belleville). President Judd will address the outcome of these negotiations in the near future.

#### **Annual Food Drive**

Don't forget to tell your family and friends to participate in the NALC's annual food drive Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2013. With so many food pantries being exhausted by more and more people needing their services, let's make this year's food drive a record year in food donation.

## Updated list of vacancies available for transfer opportunities now available

For those remaining PTFs in our Branch and any full-time City Carrier looking to transfer, there is an updated list of offices around the country that your National Union has posted on our national website. For all of the details, go to NALC.ORG. Once you are on the homepage, click on the link for the updated list. This list is constantly being updated with residual vacancies and as such, applications are being submitted. So don't wait, apply now.

#### **Customer Connect**

Your efforts in the Customer Connect Program have paid off. Since the inception of the program in 2003 the leads that have been submitted have generated more than 1.67 Billion dollars in new revenue for our employer. For those who have participated thus far, give yourself a pat on the back. For those who have yet to participate, what are you waiting for? For more details on how you can participate in the Customer Connect program, see your Customer Connect Coordinator in your office, your shop steward, or call the Branch 2184 office.

#### COLCPE

Your COLCPE dollars are hard at work lobbying Congress to help letter carriers and the Postal Service. Your COLCPE dollars also help coordinate NALC's grass-roots political action program.

#### **COLCPE Contributors**

#### **Belleville**

- ✓ Gregory Bodziak
- ✓ Linda Manning
- **✓** Bruce Prevost
- **✓** Lynn Taylor
- ✓ Cindy Trzeciak (R)

#### **Dearborn Main**

George Bolash (R)

- ✓ Darryl Clay
- ✓ Wanda Ellison
- ✓ Lisa Franklin
- ✓ Patricia MacDonald
- ✓ Robert Panchenko
- ✓ Patience Redding
  - ✓ David Smith
  - ✓ Luvette Tellis
  - ✓ Ed Waldon
- ✓ Tammy Wheeler
- ✓ Leonard Zawisa (R)
- ✓ Margaret Zywicki (R)

#### **Dearborn Annex**

Nancy Altman

- ✓ Carl Anderson
- ▼ Timothy Bailey
- ✓ Michael Bergin
- ✓ Peter Borella Hubert Brown
- ✓ James Bryant
- ✓ Mark Cornett
- **✓** Sherry Garcia
  - ✓ Joe Garcia
- **✓** Franklin Gomez
- ✓ David Duchene
- ✓ Joel Johnson
  - ✓ Mark Judd
- ✓ Thomas Klecha
- ✓ Roderick Lelental

- ✓ Melvin MacDonald
- ✓ Carol Macieczni

William Mather (R)

- ✓ Rosemary Miller
- ✓ Karen Regentik Brian Rodden (R)
- **✓** Darren Smith
- ✓ Jerry Taylor
- ✓ Cathy Tondreau (R)
- ✓ Jackie McGregory

#### **Dearborn Heights**

- **✓** Rich Alaniz
- ✓ Roger Corpolongo
  - ✓ Jim Hales
  - ✓ Ian Mair

James Powell (R)

- ✓ Richard Ramsey
- → Alan Swinteck
- - ✓ Denise Viola
- ✓ James Wolstencroft

#### **Dundee**

- ✓ Jerome Mannlein (R)

#### Flat Rock

✓ Lillian Bogosian

#### **Grosse Isle**

- - ✓ Kimberly Bumbul
    - **✓** Thomas Harris
  - ✓ Virginia McNew
    - ✓ Mary Renaud

#### <u>Inkster</u>

✓ Eric Gant

- ✓ Bryon Hendricks
- **✓** Roy McMahan
- ✓ Calvin Simmons (R)

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  - ✓ Robert Davis
- ✓ Patricia Davis (R)
- ✓ Laura Fitzgerald Leah Gray

Jennifer Green

✓ Paula Hall Ronald Hausch

Dawn Hickman Lawrence Jesue (R)

Judith Kahl David Kemp

Nicholas Longo William Mason (R)

- ✓ James Martyna
- ✓ Nicole Pace

Randall Parsley (R)

- ✓ Karen Purvis
- David Reise
- ✓ Bela Rito (R)

Gayle Rohde

Wallace Sharkey

Ruston Shawn

→ Barbara Scaggs

Larry Skillman (R)

✓ Scott Watts

Teresa Wisniewski

#### <u>Monroe</u>

- ✓ Joanna MacKinnon
- ✓ Kenneth Masseran(R)
  - ✓ Jennifer Neikirk
  - ✓ Erik Venzke

#### **Northville**

Elizabeth Karsten

✓ Bridgette Sams

#### <u>Plymouth</u>

- ✓ Heather Childers
- ✓ James Crossey
- ✓ Tiffani Howell (R)
- ✓ Patricia Linna (R)
  - ✓ Gary Macioce
  - ✓ Kristie Nelson
  - ✓ Ricky Rosales
- ✓ Robert Venning

#### Rockwood

✓ Gloria Warthen

#### **Taylor**

John Bostek (R)

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- William Lowe (R)
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- ✓ Walter Modelski (R) ✓ Bob Parisi
  - ✓ Fran Phillips
  - ✓ Bob Sedore (R)
    ✓ Irene Sly (R)
  - ✓ Michele Szafran Terry Theeck Jeanie Youtsey

#### **Temperance**

✓ Kari Guthrie

#### **Trenton**

- ✓ Anthony Conley
- **✓** Dwayne Conley
- ✓ Colette Graves

#### 7

#### **COLCPE Contributors**

- **✓** Gwen Heffinger
- ✓ Dennis Lucas
- ✓ Casey Pennington
  - ✓ Gary Ritchie

#### **Westland**

- ✓ Arnita Adams
- ✓ Bertha Battista
- ✔ Lori Boljesic
- Veronica Chambers
- ✓ Michael Chevillot
  - ✓ Wanda Clark
  - ✓ Ted Gagnon



- ✔ Albert Gilliespie
- ✓ Joan Hicks (R)
- ✓ Caprice Hughes
  David Lehman
  David Marshall
- ✓ Walter McGregory John Meleski (R)
  - ✓ Ladonna Miller
  - ✓ Marie Shannon
  - **✓** Edward Sikora
  - ✓ Tammy Viecelli
  - **✓** Raymond Tobin
  - **✓** Amy Williams



✓ Calvin Winbush

#### Canton

- ✓ Dianne Campbell
  - ✓ Lois Fritz
- ✓ Joe Golonka (R)

Douglas Koluch (R) Gilbert Pruiett

#### **Ypsilanti**

- ✓ Manuel Ballesteros
- ✓ Timothy Bowsher (R)

- **✓** Betty Daraban
- ✓ Alan Grajczyk
- ✓ Kimika Griffin
- **✓** Willise Jeffery
- ✓ Mike Karjala (R)
- **✓** Gene Meadows
- ✓ Malcolm Muscato Patricia Neeley
  - ✓ Richard Rider
  - ✓ Larry Rowland
  - ✓ Randall Sano
- ✓ Michael Tredway

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R - Indicates retired members.

Committee On Letter Carriers Political Education (COLCPE)

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## CITY CARRIER ASSISTANTS: WELCOME TO YOUR LETTER CARRIER BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Letter carriers in most Branch 2184-represented offices have likely noticed some new hires in our midst during recent weeks. They are a new classification of employee known as city carrier assistants, or CCAs. The January 10, 2013 National Contract Arbitration award issued by national arbitrator Shyam Das made several changes in letter carrier classifications. Transitional employees (TEs) no longer exist in the USPS, and all remaining part-time flexible employees must be converted to full-time status prior to the expiration of the current contract cycle (by May 20, 2016). At that time the category of part-time flexible (PTF) will also cease to exist.

Unlike the previous category of transitional employees, city carrier assistants have a career USPS employment path established for them as well as other rights and benefits that did not exist for TE carriers, such as the right to opt on temporarily vacant assignments. They also have a form of seniority known as relative standing.

Calls to the Branch 2184 office as well as reported work floor comments have revealed the existence of some underlying resentment among some career employees regarding the presence of CCAs, just as was the case with the TEs. *Any such feelings are very much misguided and are very inappropriate*. CCAs have the right to be NALC members and they also have the unfettered right to be treated as our brothers and sisters in the workplace.

Some of the expressed resentment has been specifically related to the subject of overtime work performed by existing career letter carriers, and is based on fears that CCAs will be given work that otherwise might be assigned as overtime to our career carriers. In other words, the complaint is that the CCAs will supposedly be "taking away their overtime." For those who harbor such concerns,

here's a newsflash:

It is NOT "your" overtime to begin with and never has been. Overtime only exists when management *chooses* to assign work in this manner. When choosing to assign any work as overtime, management is then charged with following the work rules set forth in Article 8 of our Contract. Management's consistent inability to do so results in more grievances (by far) involving overtime issues than with any other workplace issue. However, there is another important, even overriding aspect to the issue of overtime.

Everyone should understand that overtime is NOT guaranteed for any USPS employee. A letter carrier full-time position is rated at 8 straight time hours per day, 40 straight time hours per week, and nothing more. In fact, much of the overtime work for Branch 2184 letter carriers that has existed during the past few years has been a direct result of management's ongoing inability to properly staff post offices, along with poor planning and poor scheduling. That, of course, is not our problem, although it has netted a financial windfall for some. For others who don't want the additional work, this has been a burden.

Finally, it would be worthwhile for every veteran letter carrier in Branch 2184 to look back at their earliest days in the Postal Service. Those days were difficult for all of us, and the letter carrier job has since become even more difficult and challenging than ever. So, instead of looking at the new CCA letter carriers in your station with any sort of resentment; consider strongly that they are now and they will be your brothers and sisters in the Postal Service. As such, they should always be treated with dignity and respect.

-- Joe Golonka Branch Trustee

#### **Recap on Delivering For America Rally**

As many of our members know, NALC held a nationwide rally to preserve six-day delivery this past March 24th. I want to thank each and every one of you that participated on any level, especially those that were charged with the task of signing up members and handing out T-shirts. I was assigned to be the rally lead at the Southfield Post Office site. It was a daunting task; but with loads of assistance from the NALC National office in D.C. and our MISALC President Dan Florkowski, we had one of the largest and most successful rallies in America (comparable to the rally held in Chicago). We also had huge support from Michigan and Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO and several other union support groups. Our guest speakers included Congressman Gary Peters and State Senator Vincent Gregory, because they support our cause and the site of our rally was in their district(s).

We had approximately 1000 participants attending our rally and the approximate numbers break down in this manner: NALC Branch 1: 250 attendees; and NALC Branches 2184, 3126 and 4374 each with 150-200. We also had members attending from NALC Branches 74, 256, 320, 434, 654, 758 and 4779. Also among our participants were members of our sister union APWU, as well as the Mailhandlers, AFGE, UAW, the NAACP and the Gray Panthers. There were also members of the local community walking with us and helping distribute fliers.

Our efforts to lobby Congress were helpful in the most recent appropriations bill; referred to as a continuing resolution, which stipulated, among other provisions: "6-day delivery and rural delivery of mail shall continue at not less than the 1983 level." This appropriations bill is due to expire at the end of this fiscal year on September 30th. For now, PMG Donahoe has backed off his plans to reduce mail delivery, but he has made it clear that

he intends to move forward in the near future. So, we have won this battle, but the war continues.

Currently, there is legislation to protect 6-day delivery (H.R. 630) that requires co-signers in the U.S. House of Representatives. Both of Michigan's Senators have signed on to the Senate version, the Postal Service Protection Act, S. 316. Our work is far from done, as we still have too many of Michigan's representatives not signed on to the House version. We need your help.

First, anyone in the 14th Congressional District can call Gary Peters (202) 225-5802, and thank him for signing. If you live in the 13th District call John Conyers (202) 225-5126; in the 12th District call John Dingell (202) 225-4071; in the 11th District call Kerry Bentivolio (202) 225-8171. Lastly, those in the 7th District (Monroe) call Tim Walberg (202) 225-6276.

When you make that call: Tell them your name and where you live in Michigan, and that you are asking for their support on H.R. 630, The Postal Service Protection Act. Ask if they have taken a position on it at this time.

Additionally, if you have not already signed up to be an E-Activist, please go to our National website: http://www.nalc.org/ and do so now. We need everyone involved if we are to save our jobs, our livelihoods, our Postal Service.

-- Patricia Linna NALC Legislative Liaison Branch 2184 Trustee

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#### We The People Online Petition

Petition to support H.R. 630: Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) has started a "We the People" petition at the White House's website, asking the Obama administration to support H.R. 630 and S. 316 to "save American jobs and allow USPS to remain competitive." The administration requires 100,000 signatures within 30 days—by May 24—before it will respond. Here is how you can sign the petition:

Go to: The NALC National Website (NALC.org) or We The People – Your Voice in Government

https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/save-postal-service-save-american-jobs/drCmyCHZ

WE PETITION THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO:

#### Save the Postal Service-Save American Jobs

About 80% of USPS financial losses since 2007 are due to a Congressional mandate to prefund 75 years of future retiree health benefits over 10 years. In 2012 USPS lost a record \$15.9 billion, but \$11.1 billion of that loss went to prefund healthcare. This must change.

USPS shouldn't move to 5-day delivery. This would only save 3%, risk further revenue losses, and slow mail delivery.

USPS needs to re-establish overnight delivery standards to ensure the timely delivery of mail and prevent the closure of mail plants.

USPS needs to generate more revenue by ending a 2006 ban prohibiting USPS from offering new products and services.

Does the Administration support HR 630 and S 316 to make these changes, save American jobs, and allow USPS to remain competitive?



#### **Support the Company that Supports Letter Carriers**

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- Brookfield provides assistance for Conventions, Seminars, and Charity fund raising events!

#### **Contact Your Brookfield Representative!** Robert Kreager

**Branch 2184 Retired** 

1802 Ford Blvd. Lincoln Park, MI 48146-3956 313-386-0527 (voice) 313-386-3270 (fax) (Continued from page 5)

VP's Report

With so much legislation in the House and Senate that is for and against letter carrier issues, it's sometimes hard to keep up with all of them. That's why it's so important to participate in COLCPE. Your COLCPE dollars are only used to support letter carrier friendly politicians and legislation that benefits the Postal Service. It doesn't matter what the political affiliation is; if it helps letter carriers, COLCPE will contribute to it. If you would like to sign up for COLCPE, see your shop steward or call the Branch office at 313-295-1640. A Branch officer will be happy to assist you in singing up for COLCPE. If you are already signed up for COL-CPE, tell a fellow carrier how easy it was to sign up and encourage them to do so. Remember, together we stand, divided we fail. The job that you may save just might be your own.

In Unionism, -- Walt McGregory Vice President

#### **Preserve Six-Day Delivery Rally**



1000 Strong at the Southfield Post Office



Michigan State Association of Letter Carriers President, Dan Florkowski, among the many Letter Carriers participating.

#### REVIEWING AND MAINTAINING OUR **BRANCH ROSTER AND RECORDS**

As everyone knows, the USPS has been hiring new employees. It is my responsibility to maintain and update information for our branch. I have received and processed several applications for membership over the past month or so. I understand that there have been cases where a new employee (CCA) has joined the union, worked a while and resigned. I need stewards to keep me informed of any CCAs who resign.

President Judd and I have been working on a welcome packet for the CCAs in our branch. I have a list of all new CCAs that have attended the Carrier Academy, and joined the union, and I am working on their packets. However, I will need help with the former TEs in our branch that have been hired as CCAs. If you are a former TE branch 2184 member that has been hired as a CCA please contact the union hall or your steward so I can be sure to prepare a CCA welcome packet for you too.

Happy Spring everyone and have a successful Food Drive.

-- Casey Pennington Recording Secretary

#### Rallying Our Members

I want to thank everyone that turned out for the March 24th Rally. With a turnout close to a thousand what a great sight to see and all across the nation we got the message out. We won that battle but we know more are on the way so stay alert for the next one. Another way for our message to get out is our food drive, so please everyone help out as much as you can because the cause is worth it. Stamp Out Hunger.

I would like to give a special thanks to Barb, Cel, Cecelia, Dave, Dawn, Jessica, Paula, Thelma and anyone else I forgot or didn't see. I Thank You and the Branch Thanks You. Great Job!

-- Scott Watts Lincoln Park

## **Annual Branch Picnic** Sunday June 23rd

On Sunday, June 23, 2013, from Noon – 6 p.m. Branch 2184 will once again host a picnic for our members and their families.

There are activities planned for children of all ages, including a dunk tank, inflatables and pony rides. The picnic will be held on the grounds of the Branch 2184 Office at 6969 Monroe Street in Taylor (just north of Ecorse Road). This day of family fun is free to all members and their families.



Watch for further information as it becomes available, including information that will be posted on Union Bulletin Boards in each station.

Circle Sunday, June 23rd on your calendars and make plans to attend!





Taylor, MI 48180 6969 Monroe NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS • AFL-CIO **BRANCH 2184 • WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY, MI**